

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7672

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR, CY

SUBJ: FONMIN ESENBEL ON AEGEAN AND CYPRUS POLICY

REF: A. ANKARA 582 B. ANKARA 541 C. ANKARA 338

1. FONMIN ESENBEL, DEFENDING MFA BUDGET AT PARLIAMENTARY HEARING JANUARY 22, COMMENTED ON GOT CYPRUS AND AEGEAN POLICIES IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ABOUT ALLEGED GREEK MILITARY PREPARATIONS. ESENBEL FOLLOWED HARD LINE AS IN OTHER RECENT COMMENTS (REFTELS).

2. GREECE, ESENBEL SAID, WOULD CHANGE ITS STANCE ON CYPRUS ONLY AS A RESULT OF A "DE FACTO" SITUATION. HE REPEATED EARLIER STATEMENTS ABOUT CONTROL OF FAMAGUSTA PORT AND NICOSIA AIRPORT (REF A). HE DECLARED THAT RETURN OF MAKARIOS COULD NOT A "ADVERSELY" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INFLUENCE TALKS ON HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS SINCE HE WAS NOT TURKEY'S

"INERLOCUTOR."

3. DISCUSSING AEGEAN ISSUE, ESENBEL EXPANDED SOMEWHAT ON GOT'S INTENTION TO FOLLOW A "DYNAMIC POLICY" (REF B). HE STATE THAT GOT DID NOT INTEND O "SET THE ARMIES ON THE MOVE AND OCCUPY THE ISLANDS" BUT WOULD CARRY OU EXPLORATIONS IN THE AEGEAN "WHEN THE TIME COMES" REFERRING TO TURKEY'S WILLINGNESS TO DEFENT ITS RIGHTS, ESENBEL EXPRESSED HOPE THAT GREECE HAD TAKEN " NECESSARY LESSON" FROM "BITTER EVENTS" OF THE PAST. "OUR POLICY IS NOT TO REACT TO THE ACTIONS OF GREECE, BUT ACT INDEPENDENTLY," HE SAID. "WE SHOULD NOT BE WORRIED ABOUT THE ATTITUDE OF GREECE. TURKEY IS VERY STRONG."

4. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION ABOUT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S COMMENTS IN BUSINESS WEEK INTERVIEW, HE DESCRIBED STATEMENT AS "THEORETICAL" AND SAID IT DID NOT RPT NOT POSE A THREAT TO HE OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES.
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Message Attributes

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